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File Code: 3420
Date: December 8, 2008

Bruce Bauer
Forestry Director
Santa Clara Pueblo
P.O. Box 580
Espanola,, NM 87532

Dear Bruce:

As indicated in our R3-FH-08-01 report titled "Santa Clara Canyon 2007 Douglas-fir Tussock Moth Suppression Project Using TM-Biocontrol-1 Virus, Santa Clara Pueblo, New Mexico", sent to you September 3, 2008, the tussock outbreak detected in 2007 was successfully reduced to low, endemic levels. This letter documents the results of our Douglas-fir tussock moth (DFTM) male moth pheromone trapping survey conducted in Santa Clara Canyon during the summer and early fall of 2008. This pheromone-based trapping survey is an early warning system used to monitor male tussock moth populations. Plots averaging 25 or more moths per trap signal DFTM populations potentially capable of causing visible defoliation within 1-2 years. Once trap captures reach these threshold levels (25 moths per trap), ground sampling for larvae and egg masses become necessary to locate the infestation more precisely and evaluate its status.

The purpose of this survey was to obtain an estimate of the current male tussock moth population in the Canyon and compare it with the threshold level (25 male moths per trap) to determine whether or not visible defoliation is going occur again within the next 1-2 years.

A total of 10 plots, 3 traps per plot, were located approximately .3 to .4 miles apart along the Canyon. Of the 30 traps placed, 5 traps were dislodged from their host trees and had to be discarded. Of the 25 traps examined, a total of 13 male moths were found. Male moths were found at 3 of the ten plots sampled and averaged 1.3, 2.3, and 1, respectively. The overall trap average for the Canyon was 0.52 moths per trap. This is well below the threshold of 25 male moths per trap signaling the threat of visible defoliation occurring within the next 1-2 years. Based on these results, DFTM-caused defoliation is not expected to occur in the Canyon within the next 1-2 years and/or possibly longer.. If you, or your staff, have any questions, please call me at (505) 842-3287 or e-mail me at trogers@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ David A. Conklin (for)
TERRENCE J. ROGERS
Entomologist, Forest Health, New Mexico
Zone

cc: Debra Allen-Reid
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